

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-03

EB-07 OES-03 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 IGA-01 /053 W

----- 121757

R 010930Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4517

INFO USCG WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2898

NEA/ARN PASS TO AMBASSADOR PICKERING

SECDEF PASS ISA/NESA FOR LTC PRADOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, OTRA, JO, US

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF USCG OFFICER VISIT

REF: AMMAN 1335

1. SUMMARY: US COAST GUARD SURVEY AND REPORT ON JCG RESPONSIVE TO KING'S REQUEST (REFTEL) CONCLUDE FACILITY, EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL AND SUPPORT ADEQUATE TO PERFORM CG MISSION TERRITORIAL WATERS BUT SUBSTANDARD IN PERFORMANCE DUE TO LACK COMMAND ATTENTION AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES. THIS CONDITION PRIMARILY WITHIN CAPABILITY JCG TO CORRECT WITHIN THREE MONTHS. EXPANDED MISSION FOR GULF OF AQABA AND RED SEA TO JEDDA NOT PRACTICAL UNTIL PRESENT DEFICIENCIES CORRECTED AND WOULD THEN REQUIRE AUGMENTATION PERSONNEL AND ADDITION LARGER BOATS WITH GREATER RANGE AND ENDURANCE. LONGER-RANGE PROGRAM COULD BE INITIATED WITHIN SIX MONTHS AND COMPLETED WITHIN TWO YEARS. JAF HEADQUARTERS APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF KING HUSSEIN'S POSSIBLE PLANS FOR JAF COAST GUARD EXPANSION OF CAPABILITY BEYOND TERRITORIAL WATERS AND CONSEQUENTLY THIS AREA WAS NOT FULLY EXPLORED. END SUMMARY
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2. SURVEY OFFICER WAS GRACIOUSLY RECEIVED BY JAF THROUGHOUT VISIT. ALL JAF OFFICIALS WERE QUITE FRANK AND OPEN. POINTS NOTED BELOW WERE RECEIVED WELL BY ACTING CGS (MG IDRIS) DURING EXIT BRIEFING. JAF PROJECT OFFICER FROM DIR, P&O OFFICER FULLY SUPPORTED SURVEY OFFICER'S APPRAISAL AND IN FACT HAD GIVEN MG IDRIS A PRELIMINARY BRIEFING.

3. JORDANIAN COAST GUARD (JCG) SURVEY AND PRELIMINARY REPORT COMPLETED. JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES (JAF) BRIEFED. SURVEY OFFICER SCHEDULED TO DEPART MAY 1.

4. REPORT CONCLUDES NO BASIC PROBLEMS. FACILITIES, BOATS, EQUIPMENT, NUMBER OF PERSONNEL AND SUPPORT CONSIDERED ADEQUATE FOR CG MISSION WITHIN TERRITORIAL WATERS AND APPROACHES. PERFORMANCE EVALUATED SUBSTANDARD, BUT MOST DEFICIENCIES WITHIN CAPABILITY JAF TO CORRECT PROMPTLY. ALL SHORTCOMINGS CAN BE RELIEVED IN TIME. THEY ARE PRIMARILY LACK OF COMMAND ATTENTION AND UNDERSTANDING COAST GUARD MISSIONS. ABSENCE UNIT LEVEL LEADERSHIP DIRECTION AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES IS EVIDENT. CORRECTIVE ACTION OUTLINED TO JCG AND INCLUDED IN REPORT. CHECKLISTS, HANDBOOKS, TRAINING COURSES, REGULATIONS, INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR USCG OPERATION OF COMPARABLE SIZE AVAILABLE IN US IN WRITTEN FORMAT TO BE COMPILED AND FORWARDED BY SURVEY OFFICER FOR TRANSMITTAL TO JCG.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE REVISION ROLES AND MISSIONS TO ENCOMPASS MARITIME SAFETY, PORT SECURITY, POLLUTION, PROTECTION LIFE AND PROPERTY, COOPERATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN FOR MARINE SCIENCES AND PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE TOURISM AND PORT DEVELOPMENT. CONUS TRAINING FOR SMALL NUMBER OFFICERS AND ENLISTED (6 OFFICERS, 8 ENLISTED) IN SELECTED USCG AND USN COURSES RELATING TO PORT SECURITY, SMALL BOAT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDED AT AN EARLY DATE. FUTURE ACTIVITIES SUGGESTED INCLUDE PATROL GULF OF AQABA TO STRAIT OF TIRAN, BOAT BUILDING TO FILL NEEDS IN MIDEAST FOR CG MISSIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND FORMATION OF STRIKE TEAM TO COMBAT OIL POLLUTION IN MIDEAST WATERS. JORDANIANS NOT CONSIDERED TO HAVE CAPABILITY TO TRAIN SAUDI ARABIAN COAST GUARD AT THIS TIME BUT COULD BE DEVELOPED WITHIN 18 MONTHS. SURVEY OFFICER BELIEVES THAT A SMALL USCG (5 MEN) SMALL BOAT TRAINING TEAM WOULD BE VALUABLE TO ASSIST COUNTRIES SUCH AS JORDAN.

6. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT OR AMBASSADOR PICKERING CONTACT
USCG TO FACILITATE AVAILABILITY TRAINING (POSSIBLY WITH
USCG SUPPORT) AND ENGINEERING DESIGN DRAWINGS FOR 41-FOOT
UTILITY BOAT AND POSSIBILITY JORDANIAN USCG ACADEMY TRAINING.

7. WITH REFERENCES TO KING'S DESIRES STATED IN REFTELS,
FOLLOWING APPRAISAL BY SURVEY OFFICER IS PROVIDED:
A. ENLARGEMENT OF FORCES: NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME.
WHEN IN-HOUSE DEFICIENCIES ARE CORRECTED, MODERATE
EXPANSION TO INCLUDE HARBOR POLICE AND COASTAL
AREA LAND PATROLS WOULD BE FEASIBLE IF CONTROL
OF ALL RELATED OPERATIONS ARE CONSOLI-
DATED UNDER COAST GUARD. EXPANSION OF MISSION BEYOND TERRITORIAL
WATERS WOULD OF COURSE REQUIRE GREATER AUGMENTATION OF PERSONNEL
AND EQUIPMENT.

B. EQUIPMENT: NO NEW EQUIPMENT NEEDED AT PRESENT
TIME. SOME UNSERVICEABLE EQUIPMENT MUST BE EITHER
REPAIRED OR DISPOSED OF, UNIT MAINTENANCE MUST
BE IMPROVED, AND OTHER BOATS, RATHER THAN JUST
38-FT. BERTRAMS, SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL MORE FRE-
QUENTLY. ACQUISITION OF THREE 41-FT. UTILITY BOATS
AND TWO 82-FT. PATROL BOATS WOULD BE FEASIBLE TO
COINCIDE WITH EXPANSION OF PATROL MISSION FOR EN-
TIRE GULF.

C. TRAINING RECOMMENDED IN PARA 5 ABOVE WOULD BE
ADEQUATE WITH POSSIBILITY OF SMALL USCG MTT BEING
SENT TO JORDAN FOR TWO TO THREE MONTHS TO ASSIST
JAF CG IN TRANSITION PERIOD BETWEEN EXISTING AND POSSIBLE EX-
PANDED MISSIONS IN GULF.

D. BASE LOCATION AND DESIGN: PRESENT BASE IS ADEQUATE.
SLIPS ARE WELL PROTECTED, ADEQUATE ROOM EXISTS FOR
BERTHING OF CG VESSELS AND THOSE ENVISIONED IN AUGMENTATION.
THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGES TO RETAINING PRESENT
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LOCATION. THESE INCLUDE AREA COLOCATION WITH MILITARY STORAGE
WAREHOUSES, THEREBY ENHANCING SEVERITY AND PROMPT RESPONSE TO
PORT OR RECREATIONAL WATER INCIDENTS. GENERAL
CLEAN UP OF AREA IS REQUIRED AND CONSTRUCTION OF SOME
NEW FACILITIES WOULD ENHANCE LIVING AND OPERATIONAL
CONDITIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SURVEYS, COAST GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975AMMAN02898
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750153-0469
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750587/aaaadcdbd.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 AMMAN 1335
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 AUG 2003 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <02 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUMMARY OF USCG OFFICER VISIT
TAGS: MILI, OTRA, JO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006